

Appl. No. : 10/686,063
Filed : October 15, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph number [0001] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0001] This application is a divisional ~~continuation~~ of U.S. application Ser. No. ~~10/361,877~~10/361,887, filed Feb. 10, 2003, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Ser. No. 09/855,358, filed May 15, 2001, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,524,320.

Please replace paragraph number [0012] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0012] FIG. 6 is a schematic sectional view of the cannula of FIG. 1 adjacent a vertebrae of a patient's spine during a surgical procedure;